

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 277

By Bass

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Brooke LaShea Baird,
2007 Valedictorian of Forrest High School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who, through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence, have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Brooke LaShea Baird is one such exceptional student who was recently named Valedictorian of the 2007 graduating class at Forrest High School; and

WHEREAS, through diligent study, steady composure during examinations, and steadfast commitment of time and talent, Ms. Baird has achieved outstanding academic success and has joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in Tennessee and our country; and

WHEREAS, in her remarkable high school career, Brooke Baird has earned an exemplary 4.0 grade point average, while participating in numerous extracurricular activities, including the Rocket Band of Blue Marching Band, Concert Band, Beta Club, Student Council, Scholastic Team, and the First National Bank Advisory Board; her stellar grade point average is especially impressive given that she participates in Dual Enrollment at Columbia State Community College; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baird has lent her superb leadership skills to Forrest High School's band, serving in a variety of capacities, such as Woodwind Section Leader, Field General, General Effects Choreographer, and Field Commander; and

WHEREAS, as a result of her distinguished academic record, leadership skills, and commitment to community, Ms. Baird was listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students*, voted "Most Likely to Succeed" by her peers, and was chosen to represent her school as a Volunteer Girls' State Delegate; and

WHEREAS, other notable achievements for which Ms. Baird has received acclaim include 2006 Division I State Champion Field Commander, the 2004 Bandsman Award, the 2005 and 2006 Band of Blue Leadership Award, the Girl Scouts Silver Award, and the NTEC Achievement Awards in Writing; and

WHEREAS, she is actively involved in her church, where she participates in Bible Bowl and Vacation Bible School; and

WHEREAS, Brooke Baird has volunteered for Sunnybrook, a handicapped care facility, as well as Unicef, the Marshall County Heart Walk, and the Linus Project; she has chaired the Happy Feet Shoe Drive, delivered food to disadvantaged individuals, and raised money and collected food for victims of natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baird's display of intellectual aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for her future success; and

WHEREAS, Brooke Baird's noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for her parents, Richard N. Baird and Saconda G. Baird, her school, and her community; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baird's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and honor the 2007 Forrest High School Valedictorian, Brooke LaShea Baird, on her impressive academic achievement and extend to her our best wishes for a happy, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.